

FULL BOARD

AGENDA

January 26, 2023

6:00 PM

Ms. Arline Parks – Chairperson

VIRTUAL MEETING

<https://nyccb.webex.com/nyccb/j.php?MTID=m3e33031c84b029e89a9e5c72edc6aeed>

By Phone – 408-418-9388

Meeting Number (access code) – 2334 646 9352

Meeting Password – Gm6JMY86E7G

1. Introductions

2. Call to Order

3. Roll Call

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Approval of December Full Board Meeting Minutes

6. Chairperson's Report

- **No Public Session**

7. Committee Reports

- Economic Development-Land Use & Housing
- Municipal Services

8. Elected Officials Reports

- Mayor of the City of New York : Honorable Eric Adams

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- President of the Borough of the Bronx : Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson
- United State Congress : Honorable Richie Torres
- New York State Senate : Honorable Jose M. Serrano
: Honorable Luis Sepulveda
- New York Assembly : Honorable Chantel Jackson
: Honorable Amanda Septimo
- New York City Comptroller : Honorable Brad Lander
- New York Public Advocate : Honorable Jumaane D. Williams
- New York City Council : Honorable Rafael Salamanca
: Honorable Deputy Speaker Diana Ayala
- Bronx District Attorney : Honorable Darcel D. Clark

9. Old Business

10. New Business

11. Adjournment

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Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said good evening everyone we are going to start tonight's meeting and will begin with the roll call.

The roll was called and there was quorum.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said thank you for attending and allowing us to meet our quorum for tonight's meeting. Can I have a motion to approve tonight's agenda.

Motion made to approve the agenda. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said let the record show that the Board approved tonight's agenda. The next item on the agenda is the approval of December's meeting minutes.

Motion made to approve the December Full Board meeting minutes. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed. The next item on the agenda and I'll make it very brief was the special meeting at Lincoln Hospital to hire a District Manager for the Board and the Board unanimously voted for Anthony Jordan as the next District Manager for Community Board One and his start date is February 20th. The next announcement is that at the next Full Board meeting Community Board One's meeting will then be live streamed on YouTube.

In addition, many of you may have received notice that your current term on Community Board expires on March 31st. This year reappointment applications will be completed through an

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online portal. The reappointment application must be completed and submitted through this portal by March 30th, if you wish to be considered for reappointment. You should also be reminded that the completion of the required New York City Sexual Harassment training course and the signing of the policy acknowledged form are requirements for your reappointment on the Board. If you have any questions or choose not to reapply you must contact Tom Lucania and his number is 718-5906005 or his email tlucania@bronxbp.nyc.gov. Thank you for your service to the Community Board and please go online and reapply to the Board.

I would just like to say as an important reminder that we have been having difficulties in making quorum and what we're going to do is take a critical look at attendance on the Board and as you know you're required to serve on a committee and attend Board meetings and if you can't attend a Board meeting you have to ask to be excused. So, Boardmembers have asked me to look into the attendance and then send out notices by March if members are not attending. I just wanted to say that there will be recommendations for members who are not attending to be removed from the board for non-attendance, so that we can make quorum monthly.

Also, the Office of Cannabis Management will be coming to Community Board One to discuss cannabis opportunities and regulations. I will be meeting with the Borough President's Office to discuss district issues here. I'm encouraging all of the Boardmembers present to just send me an email with all of your current concerns no matter what it is so, that it can be discussed with the Borough President's Office.

Then just finally as a follow up where we had a request by the Fire Department to change the street over where they're located at, and your request was to reach out to the NYC Department of Transportation and have them conduct a study of the Fire Department request but also of the 3rd Avenue corridor. So, Keith wrote back and acknowledged our concerns and request, they will be performing a study of that area and then come back to present their findings to the Board. They will not make any changes until they come before the Municipal Services Committee. We will be inviting all the Boardmembers to that meeting not only to discuss the Fire Departments request, the 3rd Avenue corridor but to have a substantive discussion regarding all traffic issues in the district. That being said let's move the agenda to Committee Reports, the first will be the Economic Development-Land Use & Housing Committee.

Committee Reports

Mr. Freddy Perez, Jr., Chairperson Economic Development-Land Use & Housing Committee said the meeting was on Wednesday, January 11th. The first presentation was made by Mr.

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Matthew Washington representing Phipps Houses with an update on the status of the development of two buildings, the first is a 169-unit senior building 12 stories high with 14 units per floor, two elevators maybe three. The second project would be adjacent, and it would be at 63 Exterior Street 334 units family building 18-stories. They made their initial presentation on November 10, 2021. It was listed as an update it then changed for a request for a preliminary letter of support so that they could include it in their application to HPD for sole source designation meaning one parcel was purchased and the other is city owned. Because of the proximity the developer wants to request that the city let them combine the projects through sole source without having to dispose of the parcel by and open RFP process.

I made it clear to the presenters that CB1 and in consultation with the Board Chair, who Chaired my committee for over 20 years did not feel comfortable giving out a preliminary letter of support before the ULURP process begins. The presenters went on and gave us the details again regarding the project. The members of the committee voiced they're opposition and their concerns of parking spaces, traffic, no schools in the area, flooding, the difficulty of emergency vehicles passing through the narrow block. The square footage specifically in the senior building of 350 to 400 square feet for a studio and 500 square feet for one-bedroom.

When the presenters were finished I asked if any member felt comfortable with making a motion to either grant a preliminary letter of support or deny them a letter of support, none was made.

The second presentation was made by Mr. Joshua Dardashtian of Dash Real Estate Group, Inc. for renovation, restoration adding a 4-story edition from an adjacent vacant lot. The building at 427 East 140th Street, between Brook and Willis Avenues has landmark status and he is requesting a letter of support for his project to include the landmark and historical application, the project would be 4-floors and 10 condominiums. The price of the condos ranging from \$375,000-\$775,000 dollars. Their presentation was made to request a letter of support and the project is listed in their handout as-of-right with no government funding and no tax abatement.

The committee was concerned with the following no super, they didn't know the square footage of each unit, they didn't know the maintenance fee and no support from local Elected Officials. The residents of Mott Haven or the South Bronx would never be able to qualify or even afford this type of purchase. A motion was made not to give a letter of support, we took a vote, but the vote was not valid because we didn't have a quorum. We requested that the presenter come back on February 8th and that he would be presenting first. That concludes my report Madam Chair.

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Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said thank you Mr. Perez for the report. So, we have a report from the Municipal Services Chair?

Ms. Carolyn Chamorro, Chairperson Municipal Services said on January 9th we had the Interim Commission for the New York City Department of Transportation talking about the Carshare Program launched in 2018 with Zipcar and Enterprise Carshare and they are proposing 8 sites in Community Board One.

It was explained that Carshare provides on-demand, short-term access to a shared fleet of vehicles typically through a membership and hourly or annual. There are 230 on-street spaces and 55 municipal parking facility spaces.

Each site is two parking spaces, and it was concluded that for every 1 car shared vehicle, 4 personal vehicles were either not purchased or sold.

We had a second presentation from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. They manage New York City's water supply providing approximately 1 billion gallons of drinking water each day to homes and businesses throughout the five boroughs. DEP also protects sewer lines. They also enforce the air and noise codes as well as the asbestos rules to protect the health and safety of New Yorkers.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said let us have a motion from the Boardmembers to accept the Committee Reports as presented.

Motion made to accept the Committee Reports as presented. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said that the Committee Reports presented were unanimously accepted by the Boardmembers present. The next item on the agenda is the Elected Officials Reports.

Elected Officials Reports

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The representative for the Honorable Mayor Eric Adams said good afternoon just a quick message from the mayor there is an initiative that he put out, his vision is that he wants to be able to filter all information down to every single resident and not have to worry about things being skewed through the media or other places. So, please go online and register, once you put your email in you'll be getting the right information. Thank you so much and have a good night.

Questions and Answers

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson asked is there a representative from the Borough President's Office?

The representative from the Honorable Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson said yes hi, good evening everyone. I know it was a long process and people put a lot of hours of labor into it so, congratulations on selecting a District Manager.

So, a couple of quick announcements we have moved the Community Board application online. For those that still want to do the paper route, that's still an option. But the online application allows a few things, number 1, it's very user friendly I'm sure that anybody could do it. There is a part where you have to upload a picture you can probably use your phone for that, you have to upload a proof of address. You don't want to necessarily rush through it give yourself maybe 5 or 10 minutes to fill it out. We're going to be sending notification to all the Boardmembers that have to reapply.

So, other quick announcements, we have a couple of cultural events that are happening in the month of February, we have a Dominican Heritage event that's going to happen, but I think that they're still trying to finalize the location and then there's going to be an African American Heritage event also happening, it's February 23rd. Once we have the exact location and information I'll make sure to share it with the Chair and DM.

The Borough President is preparing for her first ever State of the Borough the date and time is still coming, that information should be forthcoming soon. Again, I'll make sure once we have all the information finalized to share it with the Chair and DM.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson asked is there anyone here from Senator Serrano's Office.

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The representative from the Honorable State Senator Jose M. Serrano said I would like to say that on January 5th Senator Serrano joined many of his Senate colleagues on a class size reduction taskforce letter led by Senator Robert Jackson urging the Department of Education to develop and implement a plan to reduce class sizes. So, we are trying to reduce classes in public schools where thousands of students are placed in overcrowded classrooms each year giving less individual attention to each student. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to us.

Questions and Answers

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson asked is there anyone from Amanda Septimo, no from Chantel Jackson.

The representative from the Office of the Honorable Chantel Jackson said that if there is anything that anyone needs from Chantel you can always reach out to me Elvis Santana.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson asked if there anyone from the NYC Comptroller's Office.

The representative from the NYC Comptroller's Office the Honorable Brad Lander said yes, good evening everyone I do have one update from our office. We released a Heat Code Enforcement Report on January 9th which was the anniversary of the Twin Parks fire as we all know. In that report it analyzes heat, cold complaints, violations and interventions. Between 2017 and 2021 some key findings were that in a small percentage of buildings lack of heat was persistent and severe. It describes that there was difficulty in turning 301 complaints about lack of adequate heat into actual violations, specific examples in the report. There's also a list of recommendations that our office provides to help alleviate these issues and I will put the link of the report in the chat for everyone to review and I'll put my contact information in as well. Thank you.

Questions and Answers

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Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson asked is there anyone here from the Public Advocates Office? Is there someone here from City Councilman Rafael Salamanca's Office?

Honorable City Councilman Rafael Salamanca said hi, good evening everyone I think I'm the only Elected Official that is present here today. First, I want to wish everyone Happy New Year.

I know that the Borough President's Office spoke about the application process just know that those that have been appointed by my office I look at attendance for the basis of reappointment and again you know that quorum is important. Look what happened with the Land Use Committee you could not vote because there was no quorum established. So, I really hope that those that are interested in applying for the Community Board take it extremely serious so, that the Board business can get done.

I'm going to be very quick just to speak about some legislations that I've introduced in the Council one of them we know that gun violence has been showing up in our communities just last week in my Council District a 15-year-old was shot. In less than one year in my district alone I've had two 15-year old's and one 11-year-old killed. Last year a young lady Julie Yamba was killed in Melrose, last year in May an 11-year-old was also killed and his past Thursday a young man was killed. Just know that my office is working closely with the Police Department and the District Attorney's Office to see how we can get leads so that we can resolve these killings, but most importantly how to get guns off our streets. I introduced the bill with my colleague Carina Rivera which will require NYPD to host a gun buyback program once a month in every borough and we all know that when you surrender that firearm there's a monetary compensation that's given to you and the bill will require that the NYPD pay the monetary reward out of their own budget that could be negotiated. I'm not saying that that's going to resolve the issues, but its just thinking out of the box, thinking about how to get some of these guns off our streets.

I also introduced another bill which is called a 50 Raffle Bill and I'm pretty sure that many of you go to parties where you get to play bingo and they sell tickets and if you win that raffle you get 50% of the winnings and the other 50% of the winnings stays in the house. Well in the City of New York it's illegal for sports venues to do this at Yankee Stadium or Barclays they're not allowed to have these types of raffles, but in Buffalo and other stadiums outside of New York City and across the country they do this. The beauty about this is that we get this bill passed what's going to happen is let's say you go to Yankee Stadium or City Field and you are the winner of that raffle you would get 50% of those winnings the other 50% will not stay with the Yankees but will go directly to that immediate community. So that bill was introduced last

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week it's waiting to get a hearing and hopefully we will get a hearing and we get something done with that.

Then finally I heard earlier it was a conversation and there was questions and I believe it was actually the Mayor's Office about the issue that we're having on the HUB 149th Street and 3rd Avenue with the injections right one of the biggest issues that we have in that area is the over congestion the needle exchange programs, homeless shelters and so you add all that and you compound the illegal drug selling that's happening here we're going to have the issues that we have now which is people are shooting up in our faces. I am supportive of safe injection sites I've been supportive of it from the very beginning. I know that the previous Administration was supportive of it, and I've explained to this Administration that I am supportive of it. There's been conversations with the 3rd Avenue BID on identifying locations where we can have a safe injection site in that immediate area. But I'm just letting you know that I'm supportive and up to having those conversations. Thank you Madam Chair I'm done with my report.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson asked does anyone have any questions for Councilman Salamanca? Thank you Councilman Salamanca for your report. Is there anyone here from the Bronx District Attorney's Office?

The representative from the Bronx District Attorney's Office the Honorable Darcel Clark said hi, good evening. I just wanted to mention that we are currently working on bringing our annual child safety fair and reentry resource fair as well as soon as I get those flyers I will share it.

Also, I do want to mention that our DA is currently looking for anyone that is interested in being apart of a Community Advisory Group for any community concerns and really have an open floor conversation on what we can do to be of better service. So, if you're interested, I'm going to put my information in the chat. If anyone has any questions or concerns, I'm here to answer them.

Questions and Answers

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said thank you for your report tonight. That being said could we have a motion on the Elected Officials Reports.

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Motion made to approve the Elected Officials Reports as presented. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed.

Ms. Arline Parks, Chairperson said let the record reflect that all the Elected Officials Reports for tonight's meeting was unanimously approved. Do we have any Old Business, there was none, any New Business, there was none. Is there a motion to adjourn?

Motion made to adjourn. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed.

MEETING ADJOURNED