

# The City of New York Bronx Community Board Three

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RUBEN DIAZ, JR. **BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT** 

GLORIA ALSTON **CHAIRWOMAN** 

JOHN W. DUDLEY DISTRICT MANAGER

# **BOARD MINUTES**

Date: 6/9/2020

Place:

Time:

**Members Present Staff Present** 

Kolaco Acqui Etta F. Ritter Gloria Alston

Jerry Aviles Joetta Brown

Dawn Carter

Gilberto Constantinez Rev. Frederick Crawford

Vladimir Cruz Randy Dillard Wanda Ellis Marilyn Johnson

Kathy Johnson-Morris

Abraham Jones

Victor Latimer

Rita Jones

Una Lawrence Tracie Lucas Lord

Gina L. Newton Laila Patino

Anddy Perdomo Edna Quinones

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera Olympia Jay Striplin

Keziah Sullivan D'Andra Van Heusen-Thomas

Patrick Willis

Tom Lucania

**Bronx Borough President's Office** 

Remote Teleconference

6:00 P.M.

John W. Dudley

**Members Absent** 

Xiomara Arriola Nelson Delerme Abdul Johnson Aubrey Mike

Rev. Idus A. Nunn, Jr. Terrance Podolsky

**Members Excused** 

Wilbert Tee Lawton

Linda Kemp

SS Gustavo Rivera's Office

SS Gustavo Rivera Latanya Christian

Councilmember Vanessa Gibson's Office

CM Vanessa L. Gibson

Assemblyman Michael Blake's Office

Emma Rauscher

SS Luis R. Sepulveda's Office

SS Luis R. Sepulveda

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS** 

Joetta Brown Secretary

Kathy Johnson Morris Treasurer

Rita Jones

Sqt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera 1st Vice-Chairperson

Linda Kemp 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson Krystle Cajas

# **NYC Commission on Human Rights**

## CM Rafael Salamanca's Office

Belinda Simmons Shanna Knotts

#### **Guests Names**

Kerry Mclean, WHEDco Catherine Garcia-Bou, Cardinal McCloskey Community Services- Early Childhood Programs

## Call To Order

Rev. Dr. Bruce Rivera, 1st vice Chairperson at Bronx Community Board Three, called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

# **Invocation**

Rev. Dr. Frederick Crawford led us in prayer.

## **Elected Officials Report**

# SS Gustavo Rivera's Report

State Senator Gustavo Rivera stated that the Senate Committee has introduced **Bill S8518** which relates to establishing an offense for the unlawful obstruction of law enforcement identification. The justification for this bill, is that there has been recent and widespread reports of police officers obscuring their identifying information in interactions with the public.

New Yorkers who believe they have witnessed police misconduct or believe they have been the victim of misconduct, must have identifying information in order to make a complaint to the appropriate authority. This bill makes the obstruction of a shield number or other identifying information, a class **A misdemeanor**. Another part of this police reform agenda is to repeal of the law known as 50-a, which shields disciplinary records of police officers from public view.

SS Gustavo Rivera noted that constituents can contact his office at 718-933-2034, if they have any issues of concern.

#### SS Luis Sepulveda's Report

State Senator Luis Sepulveda stated that state lawmakers are looking to pass the "Amy Cooper" False Accusation bill amid outrage after a white woman recently called the police to claim she was being threatened by "an African-American man." The "Amy Cooper" proposed bill would make it a hate crime when 911 callers make a false accusation based on race, gender or religion.

State Senator Sepulveda and his staff, are still distributing PPE, masks, hand sanitizer and food to those in need. The SS stated that constituents who are in need, are advised to call his office at 718-991-3161.

## CM Vanessa Gibson's Report

Council member Vanessa L. Gibson noted that she was happy to hear about the work that the state senate is doing. The Bill S8518 is part of Gov. Cuomo's police reform agenda which also includes a statewide ban on chokeholds by police, and investigating questionable police shootings. The(s) City Council is looking to implement a "Warning System" which will provide officers with the necessary training(s) to assist them in doing their jobs professionally.

CM Gibson noted that her newsletters are sent out on a regular basis along with time sensitive events that she hosts. Constituents can contact her staff at 718-588-7500, if they need assistance.

# CM Rafael Salamanca's Report

Ms. Shanna Knotts, deputy chief of staff for CM Rafael Salamanca's Office, provided the following written report: We are still working remotely, and I can be reached via mobile at (917) 837-6226. My email is Sknotts@council.nyc.gov or Salamanca@council.nyc.gov.

We are also still doing food distributions around the district. We encourage individuals to come out to the various events, and they can retrieve that information when the flyers are posted on social media via Facebook and Twitter by typing in CM Rafael Salamanca Jr.

## **Roll Call**

Ms. Joetta Brown, secretary of Bronx Community Board Three, called the roll and a quorum was established.

# **Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting**

It was motioned by Rev. Dr. Frederick Crawford and seconded by Dawn Carter to approve the May 12, 2020 General Board Minutes, with any necessary corrections, if there be any.

All In Favor Motion Carried

#### Amendments to the Agenda

Currently, there were no amendments to the agenda.

# **Bronx Borough President's Report**

Mr. Tom Lucania, representative from the Office of Bronx Borough President, Ruben Diaz, Jr., forwarded the Borough President's Report via email. Ms. Ritter e-blasted the report to those on Bronx Community Board Three's list serve. Mr. Lucania thanked the board members for attending this evenings meeting.

Board members up for re-appointment should have received an email regarding their reappointment status. Mr. Lucania noted that once the city opens up and he is back in the office, he will send letters out via USPS.

Mr. Lucania wished everyone a healthy and safe summer.

# **Community Concerns/Exchange of Information**

- Ms. Catherin Garcia-Bou, representative from Cardinal McCloskey, Early Childhood Education Division, informed the community
  at-large of their "Headstart Program". Cardinal McCloskey has remote family services along with remote learning services for
  children 3 to 4 years of age. Fliers were sent to Bronx Community Board Three and were distributed to those on its list serve.
- Mr. Gilberto Constantinez, board member, raised a concern regarding essential workers being required to wear masks. Mr,
  Constantinez stated that during his recent visit to Western Beef, workers did not have on masks which made him feel vulnerable
  to COVID-19. Mr. Constantinez requested assistance in having this matter addressed at this work site. The district manager
  provided guidance in this matter.
- Kerry McLean, representative from WHEDco, informed those in attendance of time sensitive events which WHEDco will be hosting for the month of June. Fliers have been emailed to those of Bronx Community Board Three's list serve.

#### Chairperson's Report

At this time, Chairwoman Gloria Alston spoke on the selection of the Nominating Committee for Bronx Community Board Three's Election of Officers 2020. Mr. John Dudley, district manager stated the following:

# **The Nominating Committee**

Wanda Ellis, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee 2020 Anddy Perdomo Keziah Sullivan

District manager Dudley stated that pending the results of COVID-19 and the Governor's Executive Order, the September board meeting will be either a teleconference or in-person meeting to vote for Executive Officers. Board members were also sent a "nominating form" and "description of each position," with a letter stating who is eligible to run for office.

Point of Information – The Chairperson has the right to select a chairperson of any (adhoc) committee. This action does not require a vote per the By-Laws and City Charter.

At this time, Ms. Ritter was informed that Ms. Dawn Carter and Ms. Gina Newton, were not in receipt of said correspondence. Ms. Ritter will look to forward said correspondence to them asap.

Ms. Gloria Alston requested that a motion be made for the resolution to empower the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Board during summer recess (July-August 2020).

#### Motion

It was motioned by Dawn Carter and seconded by Anddy Perdomo, to approve the resolution to empower the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Board during summer recess (July-August 2020)

YES	NO
19	0

#### **ALL IN FAVOR**

## **MOTION CARRIED**

# **District Manager's Report**

The District Manager wants everyone to meet all safety and health measures as it relates to COVID-19.

- The DM stated that important information is being emailed to those on Bronx Community Board Three's list serve from the Mayor's Office and State representatives. The DM requested that this information be saved and shared with others.
- For any issues concerning COVID-19 testing sites related to sanitization, environmental concerns or any quality of life concerns, please contact John Dudley at <a href="mailto:jdudley@cb.nyc.gov">jdudley@cb.nyc.gov</a>, so that the site can be inspected for non-compliance.
- The DM thanked the BP's office for creating a virtual memorial in response to individuals who have died due to COVID-19. Individuals who have lost someone from COVID-19 and would like them to be part of this virtual memorial, are being asked to send a photo and a paragraph about the individual, to the Office of the Bronx Borough President.

At this time, Rev. Bruce Rivera stated that he had to lay his mother to rest today. Please keep the Rivera family in prayer.

# **Birthday Blessings**

Happy Birthday was wished to those born in the month of June.

#### **New Business**

Rev. Jones stated that Claremont Neighborhood Center, located at 489 East 169th Street, is an early voting site. Please come out and vote.

# **Benediction**

Rev. Abraham Jones led us in prayer.

## Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.