



**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 Community Board Meeting Minutes

<b>Chair</b>	Jean Hill
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Tuesday, December 18, 2018
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	6:30pm
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	243 East 204 <sup>th</sup> Street – Sister Annunciata Bethell Senior Center
<b>Minutes Done By:</b>	Nora Feury, Secretary

## Minutes

### I. Introductions

- a) Jean Hill opened the meeting at 6:40 pm by greeting all and wishing everyone a healthy and happy New Year.

### II. Elected Officials/Public Session

- a) Councilman Fernando Cabrera explained the following issues he will be addressing in the new year: problems that livery drivers face with the DMV and ADA accessibility at local Post Offices. The Councilman reminded people of the on line availability of discretionary funds for local projects. He wished all a happy and healthy New Year.
- b) Timothy Tapia from the Public Advocate’s office thanked all for their support of Latisha James in the recent election. He reported that the office will be working on supporting Day Care in NYC buildings to enable residents to be able to work and have a safe place for their children at the same time.
- c) P.O. Crystal Reveron from the 52 pct. referred to the Stats and gave some safety tips about the false telephone calls asking for money from utility companies and the IRS. She recommended that one should call the company directly if they need reassurance. The December meeting will be held on Thursday at 6 pm at the Luray Lounge on Webster Avenue.
- d) Frederic Klein delivered greetings and well wishes from Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz . He is looking forward to the new session beginning on Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> where there will be a Democratic majority. Expectations are high to accomplish passing bills that have been stuck in committees for too long. Call Frederic for any tenant/landlord issues.
- e) Assemblyman Jeffrey continued the conversation about a new partnership in Albany with the newly elected Senate and Assembly members. He will continue to address rent problems, the MTA and revision of the Election Law, He expressed his good wishes for a peaceful and joyful Holiday.



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- f) Assemblyman Andy Cohen thanked Ischia for keeping him busy with all the calls she makes to him on housing issues. He also thanked the CB members for all the effort they provide to the Community each and every day without pay, thanks or recognition. He wished everyone a healthy and happy holiday and is looking forward to a new year of hope and joy.
- g) Andy Toledo brings greetings from the BP's office. He reminded members that the Sex Harassment training was extended to Friday and Members must sign the EEO Statement. Notification of reappointments will be sent after the first of the year. Any residents interested in joining the CB can fill out an application and send to BP's office. Andy thanked the CB for all that they do and will continue to do in the coming year with all the changes and development within the community.
- h) Miles Burnett reported that the hat and glove drive from Councilman Cohen's office has been extended. He also informed us about a Red Cross training on fire prevention, fire safety and smoke alarms which are provided free of charge. The number of homeless continues to be a problem now that the temperature has dropped. Call 311 if assistance is needed. The Councilman prints a weekly News Letter. Call the office to be placed on list to receive one.
- i) Christopher Mattura from the DOE spoke regarding opening a new school in the community. He will be attending the Education Committee meeting to provide further information.
- j) Heidi from Assemblyman Victor Pichardo's office announced her appointment as Chair for the Task Force on New Americans ( a government-wide effort tasked with better integrating immigrants and refugees into American communities). She also noted a donation by Assemblyman Pichardo of \$3 million dollars in State capital funding to NYCHA Bailey Houses to fix their damaged roof. Starting in January there will be a Notary in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Thursdays there will be a Tenant Support Unit from HRA from 11 am to 3 pm. The office is located at 2175C Jerome Avenue. Phone # 718-933-6909.
- k) Dilletta Pina spoke about the need for housing reform at the State level. In addition, she shared information on voting reforms supported by Let NY Vote, A flyer with proposed reforms was distributed along with information about supporting the organization.
- l) Mark Svraben registered his concern about E Bikes and the lack of enforcement about their use. He was referred to the Public Safety Committee and the 52<sup>nd</sup> pct. Council Meeting for further support.



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m) George Diaz spoke about the proposed Legislative Agenda as it pertains to Voting Rights and Campaign Finance Reform. He commented on possible directions for the Legislative Body.

n) Cherise Suarez wished all a Happy Holiday.

**III. Public Session ends/ Board Meeting opens at 7:25 pm.**

a) Attendance taken; Quorum present

b) The Agenda and the Minutes were approved unanimously.

**IV. Motion(s)**

a) Chad Royer, Chair of Health and Human Services Committee made the following motion:

1. The Committee is requesting that CB 7 provide a letter of support for the Lehman College Speech and Hearing Center. The motion was approved unanimously.

b) Andrew Laiosa, Chair of Budget/ Personnel Committee read a motion that was approved by the Committee regarding the wording of six months leave of absence in the By Laws. The motion would read as follows:

1. Any board member with at least six months of service, and meeting attendance requirements, shall be allowed to take a six consecutive month, leave of absence, from the community board. The request must be made in writing to the board Chairperson, Board District Manager, and the Committee Chairperson of the Budget, Personnel, and Ethics Committee. The effective date of the six month consecutive leave will be retroactive to the date of the last board meeting attended. Only one request will be granted per 2 year appointment cycle.

- The motion will be voted on in January

**V. Chairperson's Report**

a) Jean Hill reported on the Borough Board meeting where the re-Vitalization of the waterfront was discussed. Fordham Landing was listed as a possibility.

b) Another subject was Electric Charging Stations in each Borough. These will be on-going conversations as further information is forthcoming.

**VI. Executive Committee Report**

a) Barbara Stronczer thanked all who attended the Annual Tree Lighting. The event is one of the highlights of the community. It truly brings everyone together. Pictures of the lighting should be sent to Ischia for our web site.

b) Barbara thanked Ischia, Londy and Michael especially because of their hands on assistance which made the activity a huge success.



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#### VII. District Manager's Report

- a) IDNYC has been at our offices from November 13 through December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018, providing CB 7 residents the opportunity to receive the benefits associated with being an ID holder.
  1. We will invite them again in the summer. Other locations:  
<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/idnyc/card/locations.page>
- b) Parking meter rates in commercial areas have taken affect please use link to view map:<https://nycdot.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d12f03e992d741f89bd3b28d1c106dec>
- c) New Board Member application: <http://bronxboropres.nyc.gov/community-boards/>
- d) NYC Department of Transportation: Electric Vehicle Charging Program-  
<https://files.constantcontact.com/b392c2a4701/07b6a482-f034-4282-b70e-ade8058d208.pdf>
  1. Public can provide feedback on where DOT should locate chargers
  2. Business and property owners can also submit a request for a charger
  3. Zones/sites to be selected based on:
    - Analysis of likely charging demand
    - Geographic diversity
    - Elected and community feedback
    - Business requests
- e) December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018-Assembly Member Nathalia Fernandez, Lexa Bar, Bronx CB7 and other community partners will be promoting the “Gift of Knowledge Event”. You can donate books or come check out if any of the books donated interest you to take home.
- f) The Sexual Harassment Training has been extended to this week until December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018. If you do not call the office to schedule your training the Borough Presidents office may remove you for cause.

#### VIII. Committee Reports

- a) Economic Development will meet on Jan. 23rd.
- b) Veterans Affairs ... No Report
- c) Budget will meet on Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>, where projects for funding will be discussed.
  1. The Committee reported that letters were sent to absentee members and no response has been received to date.
- d) Environment will meet with Public Safety on January 10th.
- e) Education will meet on Jan. 3rd at Fordham Hill where Community Libraries will be discussed.
  1. Information on a new school in the community will also be discussed.



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- f) Traffic will meet on Jan. 3rd
- g) Housing ... No report
- h) Parks will meet on Jan. 9th.
- i) Public Safety will meet on Jan. 16th for a presentation on train crimes by P.O. J. Smith
- j) Health will meet on Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> with a presentation on Crohn's Disease.
- k) Public relations will meet on Jan. 16th where they will be planning a Newsletter.
  - 1. The Committee will also be discussing the CB's boundaries.

#### **IX. New Business**

- a) Jean Hill expressed a need for more loud voices in the community to attend meetings and speak out about the developments in the neighborhood. All are welcome.
- b) Jean closed with a wish for peace and joy for all not only at Holidays but on every day of the New Year.

#### **X. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm**