



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

Chair	Jean Hill
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, January 22, 2018
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	2848 Bainbridge Avenue; Serviam Hall
Minutes Done By:	Nora Feury, Secretary

Minutes

I. Introductions

- a) Jean Hill opened the meeting with a warm greeting to all on such a cold night. She reminded all that there were still applications for the CB available.

II. Elected Officials/Public Session

- a) Destiny Cruz, from Assemblyman Victor Pichardo’s office reported on the legislation in Albany. In addition to the report from Albany, the Assemblyman provides Housing Assistance every Thursday from 11 am- 3 pm. Free Notary services are also available. In addition, Ms. Cruz announced the showing of the “Black Panther” movie on Feb. 8th at 6 pm with free popcorn and drinks.
- b) Frederic Klein, from Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz office reported on the new session in Albany with a new majority in the State Senate. Some bills like Women’s Rights have already been approved with other issues being considered each day. For any concerns there is a satellite office at MMCC on Thursday mornings.
- c) Scott Stringer, NYC Comptroller offered greetings to all and congratulated Ischia Bravo on her 1st anniversary as DM of CB 7.
 - 1. He recognized the service of CB members thanking them as the first line of defense in upholding the quality of life in the local community.
 - 2. He discussed the need for more housing where new buildings should be affordable for lower income families. He suggested a restructure of taxes to build affordable housing. He is calling for a change in the focus of the City’s Housing Plan to serve those with the greatest need.
 - 3. Education continues to be an issue. Mr. Stringer is suggesting that one is never too young to learn. He is recommending that early education begin at zero and continue through pre-school.
 - 4. The Comptroller’s office is sponsoring a Summer Internship Program from June 9th – August 8th. Apply through his website.
- d) P.O. Stephen Echevarria, from the 52 pct. reviewed the 52 stats noting the rise in Rape, Robbery, Assault and Grand Larceny.



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1. He noted the homeless population to be an ongoing problem especially with the recent severe cold weather.
 2. He thanked the community residents with their assistance in recent arrests in the precinct.
 3. The next meeting of the Pct. Council meeting is Jan. 24th at St. Brendan's School.
 4. There will also be a discussion group on Wed., Jan. 23rd at St. Philip Neri Church Basement.
- e) Claire McLeveigh, from Councilman Fernando Cabrera's office reported on a bill introduced into 1250 to legalize electronic scooters to provide affordable, environmentally friendly and safe transit option.
1. Another bill sponsored by the Councilman was passed on Jan. 9th. It requires the Dept. of Research and Information Services post on its website a list of every report, document, study or publication required by local law to be sent to the Council or the Mayor along with a link to these reports and to indicate if any agency has failed to provide the required information.
 2. Small Business Services will be available at no cost on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am – 5 pm in the Councilman's office.
- f) Andy Toledo, from Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.'s Office announced the availability of applications for the CB .
1. He also said that Sex Harassment Training is available at the BP's office.
 2. One new initiative is that there will be four new Metro North Stations installed in the Bronx.
 3. BP Diaz invites all to a NYC Resource Fair on Tuesday Jan. 29th at the Latino Pastoral Action Center at 14 West 170th Street.
- g) Councilman Andy Cohen has CB Applications for community residents who are interested in improving the quality of life in their community.
1. He also has \$ I million in discretionary funds to fund proposals from community organizations.
 2. The Councilman offers free Immigration Services at MMCC . Call (718) 882-4000 ext. 0 to make an appointment. Smoke Alarms are available through his office. Call (877) 733-2767 for an installation appointment.



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- h) Kenny Agosto, from State Senator Jamaal Bailey's office reported on the legislative activity in Albany where the following issues are being addressed: the Reproductive Health Act, , the Dream Act, Election Laws Reform, Rent and Pro Tenant Regulation. Health Insurance, the Contraceptive Act and the Criminal Justice System. Further information will be forthcoming as each legislation is addressed .
1. His office is sponsoring a Coat and Cocoa event on Jan. 25th from 1 – 4 pm at 959 East 233 Street. All are welcome.
- i) Rachel Ferrari, representing State Senator Gustavo Rivera reported on the Senator's activities as the new Health Committee Chair where he moved the Reproductive health Act out of Committee to be voted on in the Senate. Other bills under consideration are the Comprehensive Contraceptive Coverage Act and the Boss Bill. The Senator was pleased to vote in favor of a host of Election Reforms and the Agenda Bill which protects people from discrimination.
1. Upcoming events are the Black History Month Celebration and the Overdose Prevention Trainings.
 2. She also reminded people of a Tenant Specialist every Tuesday and a Family Lawyer on the last Friday of every by appointment.
- j) Jane Addison, from Mosholu Library announced a ten part workshop on writing short stories on Saturdays beginning February 9th – April 20th at the Mosholu Library. There will also be various organizations at the Library who can help one prepare and file tax returns electronically.
- k) Odis Guerrero, from Assemblywomen Nathalia Fernandez's Office came to introduce herself and send greetings from the Assemblywoman, who is busy in Albany.
- l) Dilletta Pina spoke about the new Voting Reforms Laws that were passed in Albany.
1. She also addressed the need for the community to support small businesses in the neighborhood. One new store she recommends is a bakery on Webster Ave. called Confectionaires.
- m) Sirio Guerino spoke with gusto about rallying the community to support the effort of obtaining a Home for the 52nd precinct at Sam's Carpet store. With all the new development in the community and the need for more officers, the–



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present precinct will need more space. He is urging everyone to get behind him to put pressure on our legislators to obtain the site for this purpose.

1. Serio is against graffiti and wrote a proposal to remove the graffiti from Webster and Park Place, He is looking for further support in this venture.
 2. Sirio has also expressed his opposition about further large development projects in the community because of lack of parking. He urged everyone to join him in these efforts.
- n) Edgar Cisternos stated his concerns about all the new development in the community and would like to use his efforts to strengthen the community.
- o) Robert Press submitted the following hand written letter which reads “ Freedom of Information letter to Community Board 7 requesting the following information in motion 1 – A Executive Committee (of the General Meeting of CB 7) the names of the undersigned members of CB 7. He also requested the names of the Board members in question of being removed, dated Jan. 22, 2019. This letter will be referred to the Chairperson.
- p) Collette Dobbins from the NY State Nurses Ass’n reported on the services of vital importance to the health of all patients in local hospitals. She mentioned safe staffing ratios, community accountability and safe and healthy hospitals. The nurses are bargaining for their contracts and are looking for support from the community at large. They are urging people to call various hospitals to tell them that nurses deserve a fair contract.
- q) Sopria Lindao, from the Jewish Community Council is seeking interns for their organization.
- r) Stephanie Quintana, from the NWBCCC spoke in support of the Nurses situation and to announce a meeting on Jan. 26th at Monroe College at 11am to unite diverse individuals for racial and economic justice through inter-generational organizing.
- s) David Caba, from B.R.A.G. (Bronx Rises Against Gun Violence) announced their presence in the community to raise awareness about violence and to promote community norms that reject violence.
- t) Pilar Mashi, from the City Parks Foundation announced the possibility of a Partnership with the community to share, discuss and imagine the Aqueduct–



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Walk we all want. She will be attending the next Parks Committee meeting to share the goals of her organization.

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

- a) Attendance taken; Quorum present
- b) The Agenda and the Minutes were approved unanimously.

IV. Motion(s):

- a) A motion from the Executive Committee regarding an Amendment to the By-Laws was approved unanimously.
- b) Motion # 2 from the Parks Committee was withdrawn.
- c) Motion # 3 from the Budget/Personnel & Ethics Committee regarding removal of members with meeting attendance requirements was approved with 1 opposed (William Francis) and 3 abstentions from Chad Royer, Carmen Miranda and Yajaira Arias.
- d) There was a motion from the floor from Dilletta Pina to release the names publicly of the members who were removed. The vote was 14 nays and 10 yeas. Any further information on this issue is available at the CB Office.
- e) At this point there was a question from the floor from Yajaira Arias. "Do we want to publicly announce the names of the removed members in a public session?"

- 1. Since the question was not a motion, no action was taken.

V. Chairperson's Report

- a) Due to the lateness of the hour, Jean Hill asked Committee Chairs to be brief. She recommended reading the minutes for further information.

VI. Executive Committee Report

- a) Reminder that the Executive Committee will be meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

VI. District Manager's Report

- a) The Yankee's Scholarship Awards are due on Jan. 28. The applications will be read at the Committee meeting on Jan. 29th.
- b) Reminder of the General Board meeting on the 4th Tuesday of the month
- c) Veterans Committee is seeking names of Veterans from CB 7 to be recognized.

VII. New Business

- a) Jean Hill expressed a need for more loud voices in the community to attend –



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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.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm