



General Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, October 15, 2020

Present:

Not Present:

Meeting Start Time: 7:06pm

Note: Chairperson Brandon Ganaishlal asked for a moment of silence in honor of Board Member Beverly Roberts who recently passed away.

Note: The Chairperson put a motion on the floor to go into the Business Session. The motion was seconded by Nicholas Himidian.

Business Session

1. District Attorney Darcel Clarke expressed her condolences to the loss of Beverly Roberts and a welcome to Inspector Ramsey. This past summer there was a tremendous amount of violence in the Bronx and the DA has worked with NYPD and the Community to bring awareness to the shootings that have raised but mostly to foster relationships that will help hold people accountable. The DA started with awareness events and a march in the 44th Precinct with CM Gibson, a march and resource fair in the 42nd Pct, and a resource fair in the 48th Pct and is looking to host more events. On Sat, Oct 24th the DA will have a Gun Buy Back Event within the 47th Pct. No Questions asked to turn in a gun with \$200 incentive plus an IPAD to the first 75 people to turn in a hand gun.
2. Council Member Vanessa Gibson welcomed Deputy Inspector Ramsey and shared her condolences for Board Member Beverly Roberts and former Board Member Sydney Hargrave as well as to all who have fallen due to the covid virus. CM Gibson has participated in peace marches, marches of solidarity, has joined clergy, electeds, precincts and other stakeholders to denounce gun violence. The CM acknowledged Domestic Violence Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, and Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Census 2020 deadline was extended until tomorrow, the CM encouraged all to fill out the Census as soon as possible. Tuesday, Nov 3rd, is Election Day and Oct 24th is Early Voting, Absentee Voting is also available but the CM encourages all to vote in person if possible. The CM has also participated in food distribution

events as well as masks and sanitizers and funded Health Bucks and supported Farmer Market Pop-Ups. As per CM Gibson, Zip Codes that have been identified with covid spikes are 10452, 10453, 10455, and 10468. CM Gibson's Office can be reached at 718-588-7500 and at district16bronx@council.nyc.gov. CM Gibson acknowledged CB9's efforts to remember EMT Yadira Arroyo.

3. Senator Sepulveda discussed food insecurities in the borough and has distributed food and masks throughout the district. If anyone is interested in masks, the Senator encourages all to contact his office regardless of district. The Senator's Office is serving 50-60 constituents a day and encourages all to contact his office for any concerns. The Senator expressed his deepest sympathy for the passing of Beverly Roberts. The Senator thanked CB9 and Board Members for all the work done in the community. The Senator will be conducting Halloween distributions including coupons for free haircuts. The Senator is also working to protect Small Businesses. He can be reached directly at 347-582-8173. In addition, residents are encouraged to call the Senator's Office for any questions or information.
4. Council Member Salamanca addressed the public regarding Census deadline on October 15th and encouraged everyone to fill it out. The CM has conducted food distributions in collaboration with businesses in the Hunts Point Community since the beginning of April and the Office has distributed food twice a week that average 500 people a day on Tuesdays and Thursday at various locations throughout the District. Multiple Events have been hosted at Lafayette Estates. The CM has also participated in Back to School distributions with 2000 book bags with school supplies and 2000 kits of school supplies distributed. If there is anyone in need of produce, school kits and bookbags, DM Rivera to please connect them with the CM. CM Salamanca has been visiting schools in the district and has realized that many kids do not have the appropriate technology devices or bandwidth to conduct remote learning successfully and will continue to work to combat this.
5. Deputy Inspector Keyon Ramsey is the new Commanding Officer at the 43rd Precinct and is grateful for everyone's support of his career trajectory. Shooting has already doubled compared to previous year so his hands are full and is looking to really get a handle on things specifically in problematic area like Soundview Park and Clason Point Park. Former CO, Inspector Gurley has moved on to the Housing Bureau.
6. Emmanuel Martinez from Senator Biaggi's Office discussed the PPE distribution efforts she has undertaken including distributing produce and school supplies. Mr. Martinez expressed that if any resident is in need of food, PPE, devices, or other resources the office can be of assistance.
7. Justin Westbrook-Lowery from Assembly Member Karines Reyes office stated Assembly Member Reyes has been involved in various PPE, food, and back to school distribution efforts including a CH Back to School Event alongside CM Salamanca. On Oct 9th there was also a shredding event at Jaime Towers to about 70 households. In addition, the AM registered voters and helped residents fill out the Census during this event. There is an upcoming event with CM Gibson regarding food distribution and shredding in the area, as soon as flyer is finalized, it will be shared. Community Trunk or Treating Event will take place on Sat Oct 31st from 11am-2pm at St. Helena's Church, flyer will be shared with CB9 for sharing. The AM requested an early voting site in Parkchester and was successful in securing an early voting site at 1380 Parkchester Rd. Early Voting is occurring from Sat, Oct 24th to Sun, Nov 1st. In addition, absentee ballots can also be delivered at Early Voting sites. AM Reyes' Office expressed their condolences for the passing of Beverly Roberts and is saddened by Inspector

Pichardo's resignation as highest ranking Hispanic member of the NYPD. The Office congratulated new CO Deputy Inspector Ramsey.

Chairperson's Report

- As per Chairman Ganaishlal CB9 has 12 new board members and will be hosting new board member orientation on Oct 30, 2020.

District Manager's Report

- DM Rivera stated that this meeting is moving more fluidly than the last meeting and thanked BMs who logged in early, however, there are still some BMs that can not be moved to panelist list from attendees.
- 1535 Taylor Ave is a housing building with 41 units that is now being designated as a shelter for families with children starting in about a month. This was formerly a facility that housed individuals with special needs.
- BMs who attended orientation with CERT should be receiving emails regarding upcoming trainings.
- Link was sent to BMs to help complete District Needs by rating most pressing issues.
- DM met with new CO of 43rd Precinct.
- 2008 Westchester Ave already opened, CO, NCOs, DM Rivera and a few Board Members have already visited, so far so good. DHS will be sending an email to electeds to start an advisory committee.
- Newsletters will be mailed out soon with Virtual Town Hall Meeting information as well as community meetings
- DM conducted walk throughs in all NYCHA Developments with TA and police that went well, CB9 will help with various initiatives such as candy distribution for Halloween
- Staff Meeting was held today, staff has been coming in 1-2 times a week
- The new office looks great but no furniture or electronics yet
- Chairman will not be tracking attendance until November
- All 12 New BMs will know about the orientation because they will be notified by mail and email, committee preferences will be selected
- At Nov GB Meeting Chairperson will assign committees to begin fresh in Nov
- Due to Gov extension, Chairperson will continue remote meetings in Nov
- Committee Chairs will be invited to host committee meetings from the office via WebEx
- Food Distribution at St. Paul's Pantry will continue to take place every week and DM Rivera is also extending help at Parkchester Baptist Church and Grace & Peace Church
- DM can be reached at wrivera@cb.nyc.gov, ADM can be reached at ssalanzo@cb.nyc.gov
- Early Voting starts Sat, Oct 24th-Nov 1st and usually operate from 10am-4pm with variations on sites
- Seniors Connected will take place Oct 30th from 10am-11:15am with social distancing precautions
- Bruckner Commons Movie Night will take place at ToyRUs parking lot. There is a link on FB to register
- ShoreHaven will be hosting a community meeting based on issues re: Clason Point and M Rivera will discuss CB101

- Youth & Education, Community Member Darlene Jackson has continued conversations following meeting on email thread, Marches have taken place regarding the opening of schools, Committee Vice Chair Monique Farrington has been very involved
- Land & Zoning, There are no active ULURPS, no Voting Items
- Parks, Board Member Louise Merchena has been selected as Vice Chair
- Public Safety, there were 2 Liquor Licenses that were standard renewals, School Bus issues arose, school bus meetings will be held for school bus operators in the district and NYPD
- Social Service, Seniors Connected was discussed
- NYCHA, NYCHA TA Presidents and Property Managers Meetings was discussed, all notes will be drafted in a letter to NYCHA Chair.
- DM Rivera expressed gratitude for BM's patience during pandemic and restrictions.
- Veteran's packets will be made this Saturday and following Saturday and DM has list of BMs who have agreed to volunteer and expresses his gratitude.
- Although Committees do not normally meet in the summer, Executive Committee usually meets twice in the summer, regardless committees can conduct initiatives in the summer or meet if preferred.

Committee Reports

1. Youth & Education Committee discussed Marches on School Re Opening, Press Conference on Bronx Advocacy Group, and getting CEC contacts and Librarians together to discuss issues for next month. Minutes were submitted as is.
2. Land & Zoning Committee Minutes were submitted as is.
3. Parks & Recreation Committee discussed Soundview Parks cleanup which was posted on FB and Twitter and Yadira Arroyo Parks Renaming was postponed due to restrictions but Park was officially renamed. Minutes were submitted as is.
4. Public Safety & Transportation Committee Minutes were submitted as is.
5. Social Services Committee stressed Seniors Connected upcoming meeting on Oct 30th. Minutes were submitted as is.
6. NYCHA Committee Minutes were submitted as is.
7. Executive & Operations minutes were submitted as is.

Motion to end the Meeting approved by all. Meeting adjourned: 8:08 P.M.

OFFICE INFO

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