



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Present:

Not Present:

Meeting Start Time: 7:00pm

Note: Chairperson Brandon Ganaishlal played the pledge allegiance and entered the Public Session. No one registered to speak during the Public Session.

Public Session

Business Session

Note: The Chairperson put a motion on the floor to go into the Business Session. The motion was seconded by Joy Thomas. The vote was unanimous. The motion was passed.

1. Senator Sepulveda discussed various backpack and food distributions initiatives throughout the district. There will be another backpack giveaway tomorrow from his office which has been advertised via his social media. The Senator stressed the filing of the Census and the October deadline. The Senator stressed voting and for residents to register by mail or in person by Friday, October 9th, the deadline to request ballot by mail is Oct 27th. Early Voting is October 23rd to Nov 1st. Vote by absentee ballot must be postmarked by Nov 3rd. More details can be found in the NY Board of election website, details will also be shared in the chat. In addition, residents are encouraged to call the Senator's Office for any questions or information at 718-991-3161.
2. Senator Biaggi reminded everyone to fill out the Census by the end of September which is the impending deadline and urged all to hold family and friends accountable to fill out the form. The Senator also stressed voting in person, early or by mail. The Senator stated that if there is a need for food, electronic devices, or other resources her office is here to help.

3. Justin Westbrook-Lowery from Assembly Member Karines Reyes office stated Assembly Member Reyes passed legislation to provide Whistleblower protection to healthcare workers, in addition to legislation for direct deposit for injured workers, and for seniors to be able to purchase hot or warm meals using SNAP benefits. The Member's Assembly District has a 61% response rate for Census filing and her Office would like to encourage residents to fill out the Census. The Assembly Member participated in the Census caravan hosted by Senator Biaggi. The Member has led the charge to try to get an early voting site in Parkchester. In addition, the 1585 Odell Street waste transfer station has an odor and a rodent concern and as a result, the Member believes there should be curb side pick up at Parkchester South. The Office has done several distribution initiatives and has been involved in attempting to resolve community concerns. The Office has been open since June 15th and is welcoming residents to reach out to them for any concerns.
4. Assembly Member Reyes encouraged a push for Census filing and announced the Direct Deposit Workers Compensation Bill which was inspired by Board Member Daniel Porro. Announced that in person learning was pushed back today and wished everyone well. Chairperson requested list with testing sites and types of testing available. The Member will try to put something together, however, Urgent Care centers are self-governed, therefore, the Member suggests H&H facilities for rapid testing.
5. Cristina Calderon's report from the Bronx DA's Office was shared by the Chair on behalf of the DA, The Office of the Bronx DA will be hosting violent focused events throughout the borough. A Peace Marche and Resources Fair have been hosted in 2 precincts in the borough and an upcoming Town Hall and Re-entry resource fair will be taking place the beginning of October within the 40th Pct confines, flyers will be shared upon approval. As per Cristina Calderon the DA will be hosting more events on heightened awareness of gun violence and to get the community to participate and speak out in these matters.
6. Destiny Cruz's report from the Office of Congress Member Ocasio-Cortez was shared by representative Daniel Bonthius, The Congresswoman is working on next Corona Virus Relief Package and throughout the summer Hosted virtual townhalls on Police Brutality, the Census and Covid Relief as well as information session on the Service Academy with another member. Legislation on a ban of purchase of chemical weapons as well as to protect public housing and eliminate opportunity zones and introduced the Climate Equity Act and the Puerto Rico Self Determination Act. In addition, the House Passed the Post Masters Deputy Act. The Office also reiterated the importance of filling the Census. The Office has been honoring those lost by covid and forms to honor neighbors were shared in the chat. Federal cases can be submitted online at ocasio-cortez.house.gov or over the phone at 718-662-5970.
7. Kenneth Burgos from the Office of Council Member Diaz announced that the office is currently open by appointments only.
8. Alexis Ruiz from the Borough President's Office announced that the BP report was sent out to all Community Boards and that new appointees will be appointed this month as well as the letters for reappointment will be sent out to previous Board Members this month.
9. Antirson Ortiz from the Comptrollers Office announced the creation of the covid research guide on their website which assists residents with legal and funding resources as well as the creation of a Back to School Guide. The Comptroller called on the Chancellor and the Mayor to tackle food insecurity at schools and has been tackling the need for internet capacity.

Clason Point was recently funded for a few repairs due to a previous allocation from a past Senator.

Chairperson's Report

- Chairman Ganaishlal welcomed everyone back to meetings and wished everyone well during these trying times. In addition, he asked for patience during virtual meeting process and expressed his wishes to all be reunited soon.

District Manager's Report

- DM Rivera started with a moment of silence for Board Member Sharon Fernandez who passed away due to covid. A vigil for Ms. Fernandez, past Board Members, and Community Members to be held soon after restrictions are lifted.
- All Meetings in September and October will be hosted via WebEx
- CB9 has paid for Ads on FB to encourage residents on FB to sign up for the Census in addition to media blasts encouraging participation
- CB9 staff got sick with covid earlier in the year
- Rap4Bronx has been very successful in distributing food along with community partners to Shelters and NYCHA buildings
- Hygiene packets distributions are scheduled next as well as bookbag and possibly tablet distributions
- All distributions have been posted on our social media pages
- CB9 helped open the food pantry in Parckester, the only one to our knowledge here
- Local and budget consultations are taking place currently and ADM Shirley SanAndres-Alonzo is attending meetings and keeping the office updated
- DM Rivera handles District Needs Statements and wants to make sure this is very up to date this year being that there is a city-wide election this upcoming year.
- Survey monkey District Needs Priorities link was shared on the chat
- Crime is up in the District in terms of Public Safety, this can be seen in the 43rd Precinct Website, crime statistics was shared in the chat, this is done through comstat, for example, shootings in 2019 there were 8 and currently we are up to 22.
- As per DM Rivera, please contact the office after contacting 311 for any incidents that should be documented.
- ADM SanAndres-Alonzo reported that site visit at 2008 Westchester Avenue took place earlier today, the site is scheduled to open next month, due to covid, it will not open at capacity, CAB Meetings will be taking place virtually, interested parties should advise CB9, courtyard is accessible for participants to help avoid loitering in the community, job opportunities for the site will be posted within weekly bulletin, any concerns can be emailed at bx09@cb.nyc.gov or at ssalonzo@cb.nyc.gov.
- DM Rivera is looking forward to a positive work environment with clients and shelter employees.
- For Y&E upcoming tablet donation hosted by the Superintendent will award tablets to 2 schools within the district, Y&E members to attend

- For Land & Zoning, 3 ULURPS are pending, one for Sabrosuras, one for Sanitation and a Preliminary for 909 Castle Hill
- For Parks, Build the Block Meetings were held inside parks given the constraints, there have been many quality of life issues at Parks due to the closing of lounges and restaurants
- For Public Safety, regarding Liquor Licenses, approved licenses are on minutes and no red flags for any institutions. Street Activity Permits are closed for over 50 individuals and CB defers to 43rd Pct for other applications
- For Social Services, Housing Ambassadors are now available to help with housing applications
- For NYCHA, there will be a continuance of meeting with NYCHA TA's, this was paused due to covid
- October Meetings will be more productive as September Meetings were more of a check in after recess
- DM Rivera to speak to BM Daniel Porro offline regarding his personal housing issue
- New Office is completed but there is no furniture or equipment as this has been delayed due to covid.
- In person meetings may be held in November in the old office space just for committee meetings if the governor does not extend restrictions and GB Meetings may be held in person for BMs in November at ShopRite with the public logging in remotely
- Next month BMs to log in at 6:30pm to ensure all BMs are on before the meeting start time

Committee Reports

1. Executive & Operations minutes were be tabled and submitted as is
2. Youth & Education Committee Minutes were be tabled and submitted as is
3. Land & Zoning Committee Minutes were be tabled and submitted as is
4. Parks Committee Minutes were be tabled and submitted as is
5. Public Safety Committee Minutes were be tabled and submitted as is
6. Social Services Committee Minutes were be tabled and submitted as is
7. NYCHA Committee Minutes were be tabled and submitted as is

Motion to end the Meeting approved by all. Meeting adjourned: 8:39 P.M.

OFFICE INFO

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