



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose

VANESSA L. GIBSON
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ANTHONY R. JORDAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

CLARISA M. ALAYETO
CHAIRPERSON

Executive Committee Minutes(Special Session)

July 24th, 2024

Clarisa Alayeto, Chairperson

Attendance: Clarisa Alayeto, Freddy Perez Jr., Evelyn Alvarez, Ngande Ambroise, Stephanie Calzado, Paola Martinez, Marilyn Pena, Mohammed Sheikh, Zion Baldwin, Cesar Yoc

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Community issues, including violence, lawlessness, and drug use.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto leads executive committee meeting, discussing summer highlights and community issues.
- Committee Chair Marilyn Pena notes reduced shoplifting in the area, while others mention violence and drug use.

Community progress and highlights, including health, youth empowerment, and garbage cleanup.

- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc highlights progress in community health and female empowerment.
- Members highlights positive youth empowerment initiatives in the park.

Supporting youth development through third spaces.

- Committee Chair Evelyn Alvarez reflects on positive experiences and opportunities for community involvement in the Bronx.
- Committee Chair Evelyn Alvarez suggests addressing lack of opportunities for skill development.

Housing and economic development priorities in a NYC district.

- Committee Chair Paola Martinez expresses gratitude for support and looks forward to implementing ideas for community input on housing development.
- Committee chairs to drive ideas for engaging smaller nonprofits in capital funding process.

Liquor licenses and community involvement in the South Bronx.

- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh highlights the impact of education on community, emphasizing the importance of scholarships and programs like Fizzy and Spirit.
- Committee Chair Mohammed Sheikh emphasizes the significance of immigration resources, mentioning district manager Anthony Jordan and the need for IDNYC.
- 1st Vice Chair Freddy Perez discusses their role as district leader in the South Bronx, mentioning their responsibilities and challenges.
- 1st Vice Chair Freddy Perez highlights their accomplishments, including being reappointed to the board and running for city council.
- 1st Vice Chair Freddy Perez explains role of district leader in assigning poll workers and handling complaints.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto discusses NY SLA approval for community board guidelines for liquor licenses.

Liquor license renewal for a bar with history of criminal acts and underage drinking.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto explains the importance of a packet of 311 reports for a liquor license application.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan sends the packet to the community board with a deadline for the business to fill out and return it.
- Ms. Wendy Bello shares personal experience growing up in the community and witnessing criminal acts, including violence and death.
- Ms. Wendy Bello advocates for change, collecting signatures for a petition to address the issue and impact on children and families.
- Ms. Wendy Bello describes concerns about a local bar hosting private parties for underage kids and minors coming out of the bar drunk.
- Chairperson Alayeto invites others to come in and speak about the issue, with a sense of urgency to prevent another tragedy.

Liquor license renewal with NYPD stipulations.

- District Manager Anthony Jordan and other members of the board discuss a liquor license renewal application for a business with multiple complaints against it, including sharing or selling alcohol illegally in an adjacent event space.
- The owner of the business does not show up for a committee meeting to present their application, leading the board to vote on the situation without them.

Revoking liquor license due to violent incidents at Bronx bar.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto and Anthony Jordan discuss a violent Bronx bar with a history of stabbings and shootings, and plan to reach out to local politicians for help.
- Committee Chair Ngande Ambroise highlights community board's role in making recommendations.

Community board power and accountability in Brooklyn.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto expresses frustration with businesses shutting down and reopening under new names without proper notification or approval from the community board.
- Members discuss the issue of power dynamics within the community board and how it relates to the shutdown of businesses in the area.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc and Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto discuss the diminishing power of community boards and the need for members to stand firm.
- Committee Chair Ngande Ambroise highlights the importance of community boards exercising their power and holding elected officials accountable.

Liquor license applications for various businesses in the Bronx.

- Committee Chair Paola Martinez agrees to disagree on organizing, emphasizing the importance of prioritizing certain issues.
- Committee Chair Ngande Ambroise expresses frustration with the system, citing the need to hold those in power accountable.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto discusses liquor license applications with committee members.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto mentions that all applicants are new, except for The Bronx Brewery.
- Committee Chair Ngande Ambroise raises concern about lack of specific knowledge on particular applications.

Liquor licenses, temporary vs permanent licenses, and board decisions.

- Members express concerns about processing applications without proper vetting.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan suggests applying for a temporary license before September to avoid automatic denial.
- Committee Chair Ngande Ambroise is concerned about how soon a temporary license can be pulled if the board says no to a permanent license.

Board member attendance and potential removal.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto and others discuss a The Bronx Brewery license application, with some members expressing concerns about the location and age of the patrons.
- A motion to deny the application is made and seconded, with a vote resulting in the application being approved.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto announces board members' removal due to attendance issues.

Inclusivity and accessibility in community meetings.

- 1st Vice Chair Freddy Perez emphasizes the importance of prioritizing health and well-being in committee roles.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto and Committee Chair Evelyn Alvarez discuss the need for more proactive approaches to addressing absences and accommodating members with disabilities.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc and Committee Chair Evelyn Alvarez discuss the importance of inclusivity in meetings, particularly for people with disabilities.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc highlights the need for technology that can provide information in a way that is accessible to people with visual impairments.

Board appointments, technology updates, and committee meetings.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto discusses new appointments to the board.
- Committee Chair Ngande Ambroise mentions vacancies on the board and the appointment process.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto discusses moving committee meetings with committee members.
- Committee members debate and decide on new meeting date, with Ngande Ambroise and Anthony Jordan providing input.

Budget expenses and executive session motion.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto seeks to understand budget expenses for executive meetings.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan explains the board's expenses, including rent, personnel, and technology upgrades.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto asks for a motion to go into executive session to discuss sensitive information.

Action Items

- Request that new liquor license applicants attend the September committee meetings to present before an approval decision is made.
- Refer identified members to the ethics committee to discuss attendance and potential removal from the board.
- Introduce new board member appointees at an upcoming new member mixer event.
- Finalize and distribute the September meeting calendar with updated committee dates.
- Explore the possibility of a hybrid meeting model to increase accessibility.