



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 Meeting

March 7th, 2024

Clarisa Alayeto, Chairperson

Outline

Social justice and oppression in America.

- Chairperson shares a video on Youtube. Groundbreaking by Ella Baker
- The video explains Oppression and poverty persist in the "free world" despite progress, with LGBTQIA and racial minorities disproportionately affected.

Poverty and organizing for social change.

- Member Dalourny Nemorin emphasizes the importance of organizing to address poverty and inequality, citing the need to register poor people to vote and create collective power.

Community board goals and action plans.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto emphasizes the importance of creating action and using abilities and skills to capacity, rather than just meeting for the sake of meeting.
- Members discuss what went well at the meeting, including open communication and the ability to speak their minds without judgment.
- Member Sonyi Lopez: Committee share routes were valuable, with each chair sharing updates and needs.
- Dalourny Nemorin suggests moving voting items to the beginning of the meeting to ensure quorum and quick voting.
- Committee members agree to circulate information in advance to avoid unnecessary discussion during meetings.

Public hearing and quorum in a government meeting.

- Member Dalourny Nemorin suggests moving non-quorum items first to avoid delaying the meeting.
- Committee members discuss how to handle public questions and answers during meetings.

Improving inclusivity in meeting visuals and language.

- Member Evelyn Alvarez suggests using visual aids, such as a whiteboard, to improve inclusivity and accessibility in meetings.

Improving community board meetings.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto emphasizes the importance of maintaining order during board meetings, citing disorganization as a reason why people don't take board members seriously.
- Ngande Ambroise suggests using a wireless microphone to improve audio quality and prevent side conversations.
- Committee members discuss ways to improve communication and decision-making processes during meetings.
- Members analyze and improve upon ideas for a city-wide initiative, with a focus on transparency and accountability.

Meeting procedures and table dynamics.

- Member Dalourny Nemorin suggests implementing new instructions for motions and votes, such as raising hands to make motions and explaining votes.
- Member Dalourny Nemorin also discusses the layout of the table and the number of people sitting at it, finding it distracting and suggesting more control over side conversations.

Committee roles and responsibilities.

- Committee members' names and pictures to be displayed during meetings to promote familiarity and inclusivity.
- Cesar Yoc expresses concern about established committees being voted on without proper consideration of their ongoing need.

Committee procedures and report sharing.

- Anthony Jordan emphasizes the importance of iterating committee procedures at the beginning of meetings to ensure standardization and clarity.
- Ngande Ambroise suggests uniformity in reporting to avoid confusion and ensure consistency across teams.

Streamlining committee meetings and taking action.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto suggests using a template to simplify committee meeting minutes, with chairperson responsibility for summarizing and sharing.
- Anthony Jordan proposes using AI to summarize minutes, with chairperson responsibility for reviewing and adding notes.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto emphasizes the need to move from meetings to actions, citing the example of organizing a town hall to address the issue of St. Mary's park recreation center.

Community issues and potential actions to address them.

- Member Dalourny Nemorin expresses frustration with lack of action and inattention to community issues, advocating for collective brainstorming and problem-solving.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto emphasizes the importance of addressing specific committee issues and not losing sight of broader community needs.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto emphasizes the importance of taking action and involving the community in addressing social issues.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto emphasizes the importance of aligning committee priorities with personal agendas to create action and progress.
- Ngande Ambroise suggests simplifying the outlook by identifying each committee and prioritizing issues for action.

NYC budget priorities NYCHA issues.

- Member Daniel Barber expresses frustration with outside organizations pushing their agendas in public housing, rather than focusing on personal issues.
- Member Daniel Barber plans to share information about the city council and mayor taking back \$100 million from NYCHA for capital repairs, and invites media outlets to attend a community meeting to discuss the issue.

School infrastructure issues in the Bronx.

- P.S. 25 Cafeteria floods with sewage, basement issues persist.
- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto suggests adding specific streets to the list of recommended lighting locations, such as Third Avenue.
- Members discuss the potential limitations of proposing certain streets for lighting in certain areas of the district, and the need to consider the overall lighting needs of the area.

School field upgrade needs and soccer field usage.

- Youth request soccer fields, but there are already baseball fields that could be used for both sports during the summer.

Community gardens and green spaces in a NYC neighborhood.

- Residents express frustration with lack of recreational spaces and outsourcing of community resources.
- Cesar Yoc expresses frustration with lack of support for gardens.

- Cesar Yoc expresses concern about city funding for green thumb gardens, suggesting that it should be clarified who is responsible for supporting these gardens.

Infrastructure projects and library funding in a NYC district.

- Cesar Yoc expresses concerns about infrastructure projects near waterfront, potential impact on Greenway.
- Increase funding for New York Public Library Services in the district to provide full participation for children and youth.

Police allocation in New York City.

- Member Dalourny Nemorin opposes more police in transit stations, citing adequate police presence.
- Members discuss police presence and capacity in their neighborhood, with some calling for more officers to address crime.

Funding for youth programs and mental health services.

- Chairperson Clarisa Alayeto discusses funding for recreational programming, asthma treatment, and youth employment in New York City.
- Member Daniel barber advocates for more funding for mental health services, citing the impact of the "crash epidemic" on young children.

Event permits and approval process in NYC.

- Anthony Jordan explains that the Community Board in New York City now requires approval from each of the committees that Pacific Area falls under for events, such as public and supportive housing, education youth services, and more.
- The proposal submission deadline is 90 days before the event, and organizations must provide proof of nonprofit status, insurance, and a full run of their event to the committee for approval.
- Anthony Jordan explains that events on the street require a permit from the Mayor's Office, including block parties, festivals, and carnivals.
- Ngande Ambrose adds that small events can be approved by local NYPD, while larger events require approval from multiple departments.

Action Items

- Add recommendation to funding request for PS 149 to also include fixing sewage and flooding issues in cafeteria basement
- Attend upcoming DOT meeting about Harlem River waterfront development and connector
- Create template for committee chairs to summarize minutes
- Send past street fair permit violations to committee chairs along with new permit applications
- Have board members move to sit at front table during votes to ensure voices are heard
- Project visuals during board meeting for key items needing motions/votes
- Share capital funding mental health data and application info at next board meeting
- Add bus stop lighting for 3rd Ave from 138th St to 157th St to BP funding request #3
- Send recommendations for Borough President budget priorities by Mon 3/7 deadline
- Share NYCHA capital funding withdrawal announcement when received