



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose



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BOROUGH PRESIDENT

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CHAIRPERSON

ANTHONY R. JORDAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

Legislation, By-Laws & Policy Committee Minutes

March 21st, 2024

Dalourny Nemorin, Chairperson

Outline

Summer program funding cuts in NYC.

- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin introduces the meeting and provides background information on the bylaws editing process.
- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin explains that the summer rising program is funded by both the Department of Education and the DYCD, but a \$19.6 million cut to DYCD means middle schoolers will be dismissed at 4pm, and the program will only be Monday through Thursday for middle schoolers.
- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin and Member Maura Cosme discuss the lack of funding for after-school programs for high schoolers and suggest asking the city council to provide funding for community centers to expand their hours and staff capacity to address the gap.

Recreation center closures and impact on youth in the Bronx.

- Anthony Jordan highlights the impact of budget cuts on after-school programs in the Bronx, particularly the loss of free recreational spaces and the burden on families to pay for facilities.
- Anthony Jordan expresses concern that the cuts will disproportionately affect marginalized communities, including children who may feel excluded from their own neighborhood facilities.
- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin expresses frustration over the closure of St. Mary's Recreation Center for over 5 years, with no expected reopening until 2025-26.
- The committee aims to address the issue by identifying actionable items, such as finding alternative spaces for youth to gather and engage.
- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin mentions that the Parks Department initially said the center would close in sections, but this did not happen, leading to further delays and frustration, from Community residents who depend on the center.

NYC parks closures and summer youth jobs.

- Community Board member expresses frustration with the lack of enforcement mechanisms for park closures.

NYC budget cuts and their impact on youth programs.

- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin discusses the impact of budget cuts on after-school programs, including the potential loss of crucial resources for children.
- Member Maura Cosme asks about the effect of budget cuts on summer youth programs, highlighting the importance of recreational resources for children.
- Member Maura Cosme mentions the Neighborhood Advisory Board DYCD/NAB program and its role in allocating federal dollars for community service block grants.

Pending legislation and advocacy efforts.

- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin discusses the importance of sending a letter to legislators to show the board's concerns and advocacy efforts.
- Member Maura Cosme suggests the Bronx Borough President can also send letters to legislators to involve them in the issue.
- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin highlights the importance of rent stabilization for small businesses in district one, citing the need for explicit language in pending legislation to protect these businesses from gentrification.
- Member Emmanuel Pardilla suggests examining the status of the commercial Rent Stabilization Act, which is currently pending, and gathering an update from elected representative Diana Ayala to ensure its passage.

Small business rent stabilization in New York City.

- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin expresses concern about corporations pretending to be small businesses to take advantage of a bill, and the need to define what a small business is in the bill.
- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin expresses concern about small businesses being priced out of their locations due to high rent and suggests writing a letter of support for a bill that could help protect them.
- Member Emmanuel Pardilla suggests incentivizing residents to start small businesses by controlling rent, while Speaker 1 expresses skepticism about owner residency requirements for commercial rent stabilization.
- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin and members discuss the issue of empty storefronts in the area due to high rents.

Rezoning and affordable housing in New York City.

- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin argues that rezoning in New York City is complex and nuanced due to its population size and historical context, and that piecemeal rezoning approaches are not effective.
- Member Emmanuel Pardilla expresses skepticism about rezoning, citing concerns about creating more chaos and potentially undermining the existing zoning system that has evolved over time to meet community needs.
- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin discusses a bill related to zoning and small businesses, mentioning the need for advocacy and information exchange.
- Member Emmanuel Pardilla brings up a similar bill called "10 an opportunity to purchase," and discusses the idea of public housing and homeownership options.

Affordable housing and rent stabilization in NYC.

- Chairperson Dalourny Nemorin advocates for preserving low-income housing units and creating a rent-to-own program.

Affordable housing legislation in New York City.

- Anthony Jordan discusses lobbying efforts in the district with various organizations and legislation.
- Committee discusses commercial rent stabilization, with a focus on systematic racism in housing.

Policy letters and legislation for a business organization.

- Committee members requests feedback on policy letter and bylaws revisions via Google Doc.

Action Items

Review and provide feedback on draft letter about restoring cuts to DYCD funding, especially for the Summer Rising program.

Add committee members to Google Doc with draft DYCD letter to allow editing.

Research and share information on the Housing Our Neighbors with Dignity Act (HONDA) - rent-to-own public housing legislation.

Research and share information on the Commercial Rent Stabilization Act.

Identify and invite advocates knowledgeable about HONDA and Commercial Rent Stabilization Act to present at future committee meetings.

Strategize best time for legislators to present at committee meeting vs. full board meeting.

Keep committee meeting date consistent on 2nd Thursday of the month if possible.

Schedule meeting with legislators to discuss priority bills and how to support them.

Draft letter of support for Commercial Rent Stabilization Act.

Follow up on status of St. Mary's Park renovations with Parks Dept commissioner at upcoming full board meeting.